

Spring 1-15-2000

ENG 3703-001: 20th-century American Literature

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3703-001

English 3703: 20th-century American Literature
Carpenter (office: CH 328; ph. ext.: 6122)
Spring 2000

- Jan. 11: Introduction
13: Cather's My Antonia, as well as Stafford's "Judgements," "One Home," and "The Farm on the Great Plains."
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- 18: My Antonia.
20: Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby, as well as Eliot's "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock," "The Hollow Men," and Jeffers' "Shine, Perishing Republic."
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- 25: The Great Gatsby.
27: Hemingway's The Sun Also Rises, as well as Jeffers' "Boats in a Fog" and Frost's "Directive."
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- Feb. 1: The Sun Also Rises.
3: Faulkner's The Sound and the Fury.
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- 8: The Sound and the Fury.
10: Kesey's One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, as well as Lowell's "After the Surprising Conversions" and "Skunk Hour."
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- 15: One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest. **ESSAY DUE.**
17: Catch-up on poetry.
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- 22: O'Neill's Long Day's Journey into Night, as well as Rich's "Diving into the Wreck," and Roethke's "The Far Field."
24: Long Day's Journey into Night.
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- 29: Williams' A Streetcar Named Desire, as well as Plath's "Daddy" and "Lady Lazarus."
- March 2: A Streetcar Named Desire. **Take-home midterm exam issued; due 3/7.**
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- 7: Miller's Death of a Salesman, as well as Stevens' "The Idea of Order at Key West" and "Anecdote of the Jar." **Midterm exams due today.**
9: Death of a Salesman.
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- 14 & 16: Spring Recess
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- 21: Albee's Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf, as well as Sexton's "The Truth the Dead Know," "All My Pretty Ones," and Williams' "The Ivy Crown."
23: Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf.

28: Wilson's Fences.

30: Fences.

 April 4 & 6: Wright's "A Five Dollar Fight" (1316), as well as Frost's "Home Burial," Williams' "Tract," and Stevens' "Sunday Morning." **ESSAYS DUE ON 4/6.**

 11 & 13: Faulkner's "Barn Burning" and O'Connor's "Good Country People."

 18 & 20: Cheever's "The Swimmer," Oates' "Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been," and Roethke's "The Pike."

 25 & 27: Ellison's "Invisible Man," Baldwin's "Sonny's Blues," and Morrison's "Sula."

 May 1-5: Week of final examinations. (I will announce in class the date/time of our final exam.)

 We are going to read a lot of literature in this course, as you can see by the assignments listed on this and the preceding page, and I expect each student to read **every** novel, play, poem and short story assigned--and to be prepared to discuss each one in class--by the date a given work is scheduled for discussion (e.g., by 3 February each student will have read, and will be prepared to discuss in class, Faulkner's The Sound and the Fury). (Please note that titles of short stories, like those of poems, are placed within quotation marks; titles of novels and plays are underlined.) While we'll begin the semester by studying novels, move next to plays and then to short stories, we will be reading and discussing poems throughout the semester.

Each student will be required to write two (2) essays (3-5 pages, typed and double-spaced), one midterm exam and a final exam. I will not accept any late essays, and students' essays are to be their own work.

I don't like absences--my own or my students'--and this partially explains why I will lower a student's grade for the semester by one letter if he/she has more than three unexcused absences from this class; and if a student has more than four unexcused absences I will fail that student for the semester.

With all the above cautionary words said, then, what needs saying is that the success of this course depends upon how disciplined each of us is, how generously and thoughtfully verbal in class discussions each of us is, and how open to learning about our nation and our selves--from American literature and each other--each of us is.